

# DANCE SUBJECT OF EDITORIAL

PATHFINDER COVERS MODERN  
DANCE IN ARTICLE HITTING  
FROM SHOULDER.

A recent editorial in The Pathfinder, published in Washington, D. C., contains the following well worth editorial entitled "On With The Dance." It is seldom that an article appears on dancing which so well covers the modern dances and it is well worth reading:

The Ladies' Home Journal is publishing a series of articles on the "unspeakable jazz" and the immoral character of much of the modern dancing. This is a sign that decent public opinion is beginning to awake from its apparent lethargy and to make itself felt. Several cities have initiated police supervision of their public dance places, and violators of good manners and good taste are put out. In one town they are sent home in the police patrol.

It has come to be a common thing for a young man to meet a young lady in good society, invite her to dance, step immediately on the ballroom floor, clasp her in a tight embrace, place his cheek against hers and begin a series of gyrations, twistings, wiggling, waddling and toddling to the meaning, jerky strains of the orchestra, which a few years ago would have brought the blush of shame to a hardened sinner and would have caused the arrest of both if seen by a policeman. The young lady who would slap a man's face if he attempted such familiarities with her in private quietly submits on the dance floor, and often meets her partner more than half way. Until comparatively recently such actions were only witnessed as a part of the orgies of the underworld where they had their origin.

Many reasons have been assigned for this sort of behavior, but whatever may be the reason there is absolutely no excuse for it. It is vulgar love-making, frank sex-excitement, promiscuous and in public. And strange to say, mothers and fathers stand by and see their daughters indulge in this sort of thing with one man after another without making the least protest. They stand for it because the public stands for it. There seems to have come over us a sort of moral paralysis for the moment, to the extent even of causing those who are disgusted to shrug their shoulders and say nothing.

It is gratifying to see signs of an awakened public feeling of decency and good taste in this matter. The dancers are not the only guilty. Advertisers of dance music and graphophone records have displayed colored pictures in leading magazines showing smart young couples in the objectionable attitudes described, and even pages of reading matter have carried such pictures to illustrate jokes or stories. The general public has had its share of the blame, and the public in general has suffered.

For we are all a part of this. The public conduct that is tolerated sets the standard of our morals as a nation and as a people. Nations have their ratings in morality the same as individuals. Some nations are cleaner than others. And each nation is judged by the actions, the things that are permitted by the general public and which go unreported. Citizen John Smith is affected by the lowering of the moral standards in dance halls and ball rooms. Immoralities committed in private are largely the affairs of individuals. Their very privacy shows at least a respect for public opinion. But the public, the people, are rated at what they stand for, and the man who stays at home to keep out of it all is affected just the same as the rest. He is an American, and he will have an immoral America to bring up his children in unless this tendency is checked.

Dancers themselves, dancing teachers and music publishers, if they were not short-sighted in their own interests, would aid in bringing about a reform and lifting the moral standard. Carrying the objectionable features to excess caused the abolition of the saloon and the curtailment of horse-racing and drove out prize fighting and boxing matches from most of the states. First the sport is made very objectionable by the worst element of its participants and then arises a strong wave of indignation demanding its suppression. That is our customary way of doing things in this country, and friends of the dance should profit by the lessons. Dancing must be made decent or dancing will become taboo among the better classes of people and be relegated to the rank of bootlegging and bookmaking.

There seems to be a natural instinct for dancing among nearly all peoples and in every stage of civilization. There always has been dancing and there always will be, but at different periods of history it has gone up and down in popular favor and in its standing as a form of amusement. During the Puritan regime, which was a reaction from the immoralities of the age, it was severely frowned on. In the old days of the infant, which was graceful, pleasing and entirely unobjectionable, dancing held high favor among the very best classes. It took some time for the general public to give its approval to the waltz, which required the gentleman's arm to be around the lady's waist, but since the dance was beautiful and the position necessary for its execution, objection to it gradually died away. But there has always been a considerable element who have persisted in condemning the waltz and kindred dances. This element has been largely increased and is now fast increasing as a result of the objectionable features that have crept into all dancing of late years.

There are many people who dance but who have temporarily stopped because of the new character dancing has assumed. These people would welcome a reform, and would be glad to join again the ranks of the dancers. If the dance stays bad or gets worse, discriminating men and women will gradually drop out and dancing will gradually sink to the plane of things to be watched by the police officers.

Intelligent dancers and intelligent people of every class should put a stop to public misbehavior in the guise of dancing. Cool, hard-headed men who are not reformers have said that the modern jazz dance is doing more harm to our youth and to our country than the saloons ever did. It leads our girls by easy and logical steps to joy rides, drinking and smoking, profanity and the indulgence in stories which were supposed to be limited to men's smoking rooms. There is no use blinking at this condition. It exists. And there is going to be a reform from within or from without.

As long as America's heart is sound such a situation will not long go unchallenged. If those on the inside will do the cleaning up the dance will be saved. If not the uncompromising reformer, who cuts off the leg to cure a sore toe, will be on the scene with blood in his eye.

Public opinion will suffice for this job if it will wake up. When a man casually speaks to a friend or to an acquaintance expressing disapproval, that is public opinion at work.

## Local Happenings Tersely Told

You will find the best bread in Butter Cup wrappers 62 tfe  
20 year 15 jeweled bracelet ladies' watch \$15.00 at Porter's.—advertisement

Cinderella is back to town. Call Little Rock Coal & Lumber Co.—advertisement 30-2

Dr. E. G. Shyster, osteopathic physician, State Savings Bank Building, Alma, both phones. 57-1f

Tanlac is appetizing and invigorating. Try it today. Look-Paterson Drug Co.—advertisement

Mrs. Wm. Story received word from Ithaca that Mrs. Lydia Owens at Ithaca, Minnesota, is very ill.

The Arcade Grange will hold a baked goods sale on Saturday, Dec. 17th, at the gas office.—advertisement

Our pastry flour at 90c sack can't be beat. Phone 252. Daley's Feed Store. Pop corn 5c lb.—advertisement 20-1w

A warranted 10 yr. gold filled ladies' bracelet watch, lever movement, with gold filled bracelet, \$10.00, at Porter's.—advertisement

Buy your fancy pillow slips and aprons at the gas office from the Methodist ladies on Wednesday, Dec. 21, and Saturday, Dec. 24.

The ladies of the Christian Church will hold a bazaar and baked goods sale Friday and Saturday at Medler's Electric Shop.—advertisement

Don't forget the fancy pillow slip and apron sale given by the Methodist ladies at the gas office Wednesday, Dec. 21, and Saturday, Dec. 24.—advertisement

The Joint Installation of the Chapter and Council of the Masonic lodge here, which was to have been held Friday evening, December 16, has been postponed until Monday evening, December 19.

Miss LaRue Davis, of Chattanooga, Tenn., only weighed 76 pounds. After taking three bottles of Tanlac, she now weighs over 100 pounds and is enjoying the best of health. Look-Paterson Drug Co.—advertisement.

Christmas is coming. You should place your orders early for any specials you might need or desire. Remember the Model Bakery is fully equipped to turn out any class of special bakery goods for any occasion on reasonable notice.—advertisement —29-3w

The Civic Improvement meeting on Tuesday afternoon was very well attended and those present greatly enjoyed the address by Rev. Williams, "the fighting parson," of Chicago. At the next meeting election of officers will be held and the annual reports will be given.

The Mission Circle of the First Baptist Church has elected the following officers for the ensuing year: President, Mrs. D. L. Johnson; vice-president, Mrs. E. E. Shoulter; secretary, Mrs. John Becker; treasurer, Miss Marjorie Bildson; pianist, Mrs. Raymond Medler.

The Philathea Class of the First Baptist Sunday School has elected the following officers for the year, 1922: President, Mrs. M. Smith; vice-president, Mrs. Charles Vine; secretary, Mrs. Lloyd Campbell; treasurer, Mrs. A. G. Moore; corresponding secretary, Mrs. John Becker.

## SOUTHEAST COE

Bert Anderson and wife and son, Russell, of Emerson, visited at the home of Fred Gays, Monday afternoon.

Fay Fordyce has bought a Ford car. Roy Boyles and family spent Sunday with her mother, Mrs. Pehel. Alice Leonard and three friends who are attending Mt. Pleasant Normal spent Sunday evening at the home of John Leonard.

Elder Kimberling went Friday to North Shade as delegate on church work. He will return home today.

C. D. Alexander and Fred Gays went to North Branch and Gladwin Friday. They brought home one hundred sheep to feed out.

Clayton Hicks of St. Louis spent Sunday night at Fred Gays's.

Little Marie Smith of Flint is visiting her grandma, Mrs. Kimberling, for a few weeks.

The infant child of Mr. and Mrs. Knash was buried last Tuesday. Mr. Dillon have moved on the Wm. Johnson farm.

Lee Leonard was hunting and trapping on the Chippewa last week.

Read the last page.

PROPER

# Your Home Town Paper A Good Christmas Gift

**B**ECAUSE it carries all the NEWS of your own home town. Week after week, it prints in detail the happenings of the community. Faithfully it sets forth the goings and comings of its people, giving careful attention to the homely little items that are ignored in the over-crowded dailies of the big cities.

**I**T CAN furnish more interesting information about the people you and your friends know, than could a dozen private correspondents. In writing you may know only a few of your friend's friends at home but your HOME TOWN PAPER knows them all. It tells all about the people in whom you and your friends are interested.

**I**T ALSO keeps you and your friends informed as to the industrial and commercial growth of a community which familiarity may have caused you to neglect.

Present your friends this year with a gift that will be new fifty-two times in 1922 by giving them a year's subscription to

## THE ALMA RECORD

(The Official Paper  
of the City of Alma)

PRODUCES

*Studebaker*

## Gift Time! and the BIG-SIX COUPE

GIFT time is here. Lots of hurrying and scurrying. Lots of deep thinking. Lots of figuring with pad and pencil.

Bunch your gifts this year! Just eliminate the hosts of little things that will be forgotten long before the Winter has gone and decide right now upon one gift for the entire family—a BIG-SIX COUPE.

It is the ideal gift for all the family—and there's no need to tell you that everyone will remember it all through the year and the years to come.

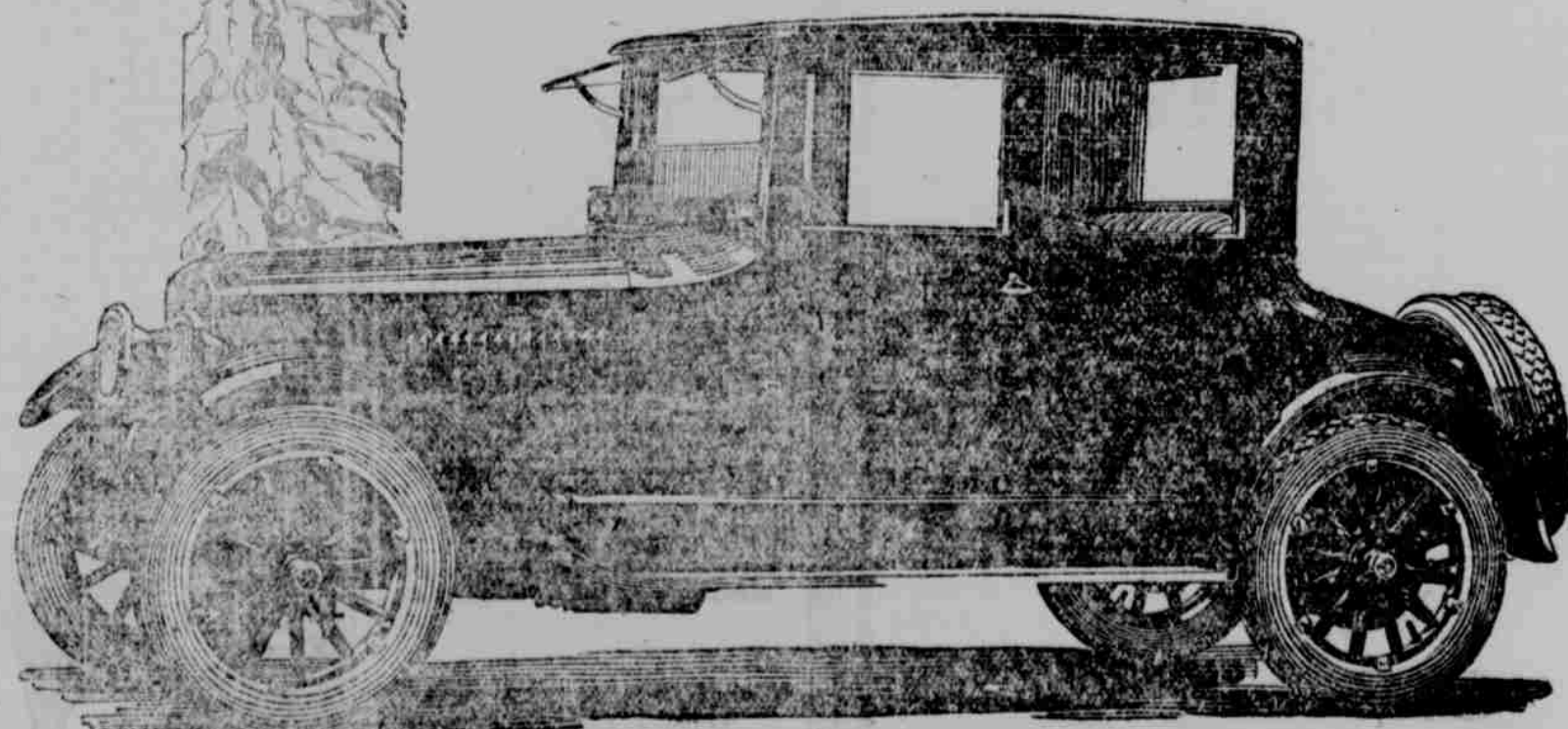
We'll be glad to have you inspect the BIG-SIX COUPE at any time — be glad, too, to make arrangements to have it at your front door Christmas morning where all the folks will see it bright and early. Come in today! We'll be pleased to arrange terms of payment to meet your convenience.

### MODELS AND PRICES

(f.o.b. factories)

Coupe and Sedan	Touring Cars and Roadsters
Light-Six 2-Pass. Coupe-Roadster.....\$1550	Light-Six 3-Pass. Roadster.....\$1125
Light-Six 4-Pass. Sedan.....1950	Light-Six Touring Car.....1150
Special-Six 4-Pass. Coupe.....2450	Special-Six 2-Pass. Roadster.....1585
Special-Six 5-Pass. Sedan.....2550	Special-Six Touring Car.....1635
Big-Six 4-Pass. Coupe.....2850	Special-Six 4-Pass. Roadster.....1635
Big-Six 7-Pass. Sedan.....2950	Big-Six Touring Car.....1985

All Studebaker Cars are Equipped with Cord Tires



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## Chocolate 18c Lb.

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